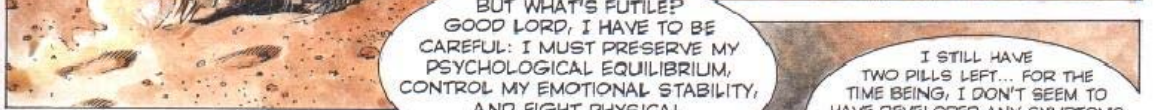
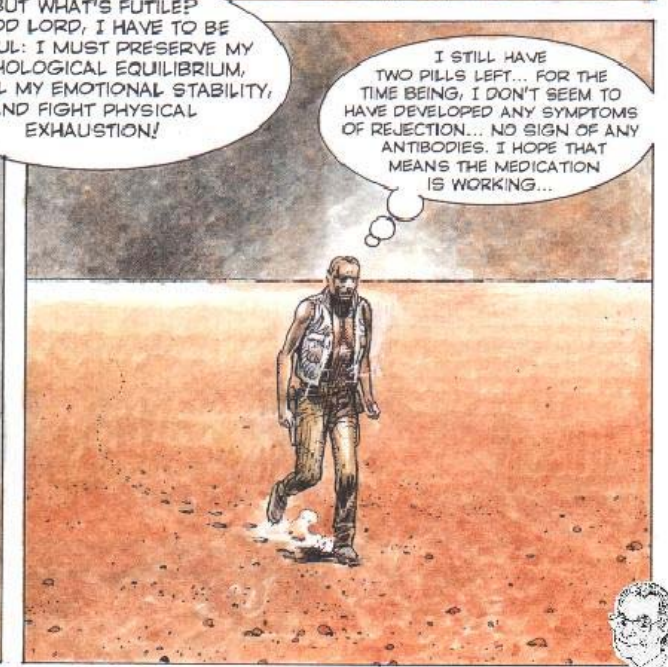




IT FEELS LIKE I'VE BEEN WALKING FOR HOURS AND HOURS... MAYBE IT'S BEEN DAYS...? I CAN'T REMEMBER! DOES TIME MOVE AT THE SAME SPEED HERE? A HUGE EXPANSE OF DESERT LIES AHEAD... IT'S ENOUGH TO DRIVE YOU INSANE! I MUST GET THERE... BUT WHERE? WE ONLY GUESSED AT THE EXACT LOCATION... IT SHOULD BE ACCURATE. IF IT ISN'T, ALL THIS WILL HAVE BEEN FUTILE.



BUT WHAT'S FUTILE? GOOD LORD, I HAVE TO BE CAREFUL: I MUST PRESERVE MY PSYCHOLOGICAL EQUILIBRIUM, CONTROL MY EMOTIONAL STABILITY, AND FIGHT PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION!



I STILL HAVE TWO PILLS LEFT... FOR THE TIME BEING, I DON'T SEEM TO HAVE DEVELOPED ANY SYMPTOMS OF REJECTION... NO SIGN OF ANY ANTIBODIES. I HOPE THAT MEANS THE MEDICATION IS WORKING...



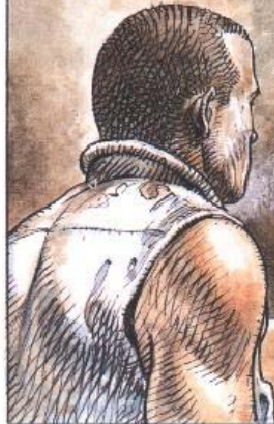
...I WONDER IF THIS VIRTUAL DIMENSION IS REALLY A MENTAL EXTENSION OF THE COMPUTER CP1? HAS MY MIND REALLY PENETRATED ITS NEURONS? AND WHAT IF DRULUNA HAS ALSO VENTURED FORTH INTO THIS DESERT? NO, MAYBE SHE HASN'T! DOC'S PROBABLY RIGHT, OUR MINDS MUST RESPOND DIFFERENTLY.



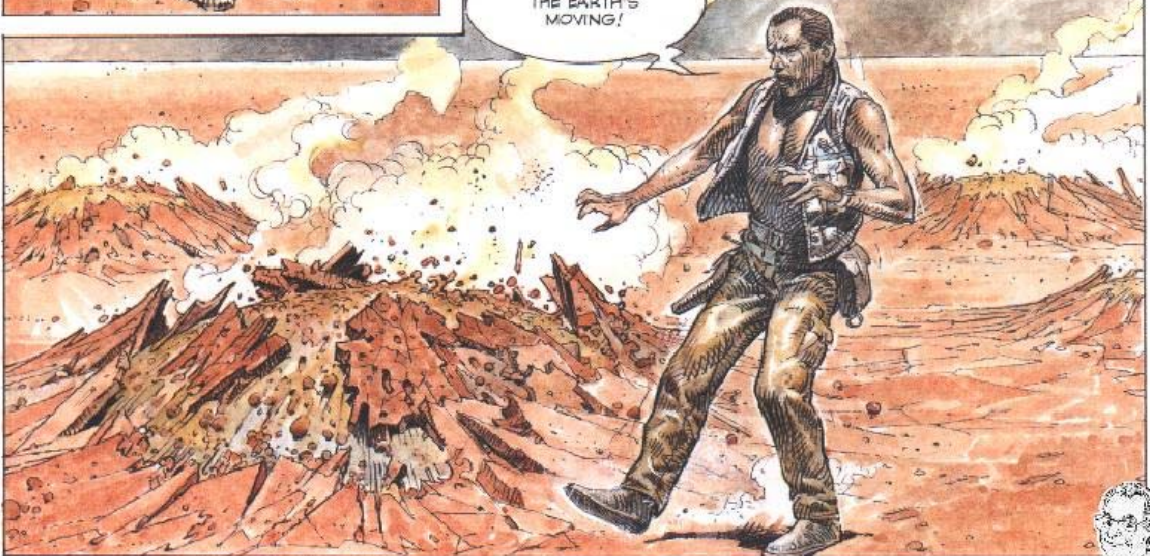
YEAH...! THE TELEPATHIC UNION OF MIND AND CP 1 HAS GENERATED THIS DIMENSION-- MY NEW DIMENSION! IS THE DUST THAT SURROUNDS ME...



...THE OUTCOME OF AN EXPLOSION? HMM... I'D ALREADY NOTICED IT. HEY, SOMETHING'S HAPPENING OVER THERE.



DAMN IT! THE EARTH'S MOVING!





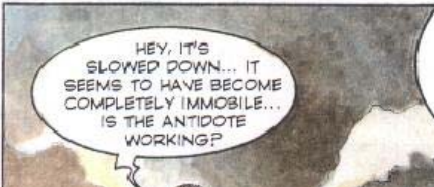
OH,
MY GOD...!



CURSE THEM...!
THEY'VE GOT ME! WHAT HELL
CREATED THESE MONSTERS?
DAMN THEM! THEY MUST BE THE
ANTIBODIES! SO I'VE FINALLY
ARRIVED!

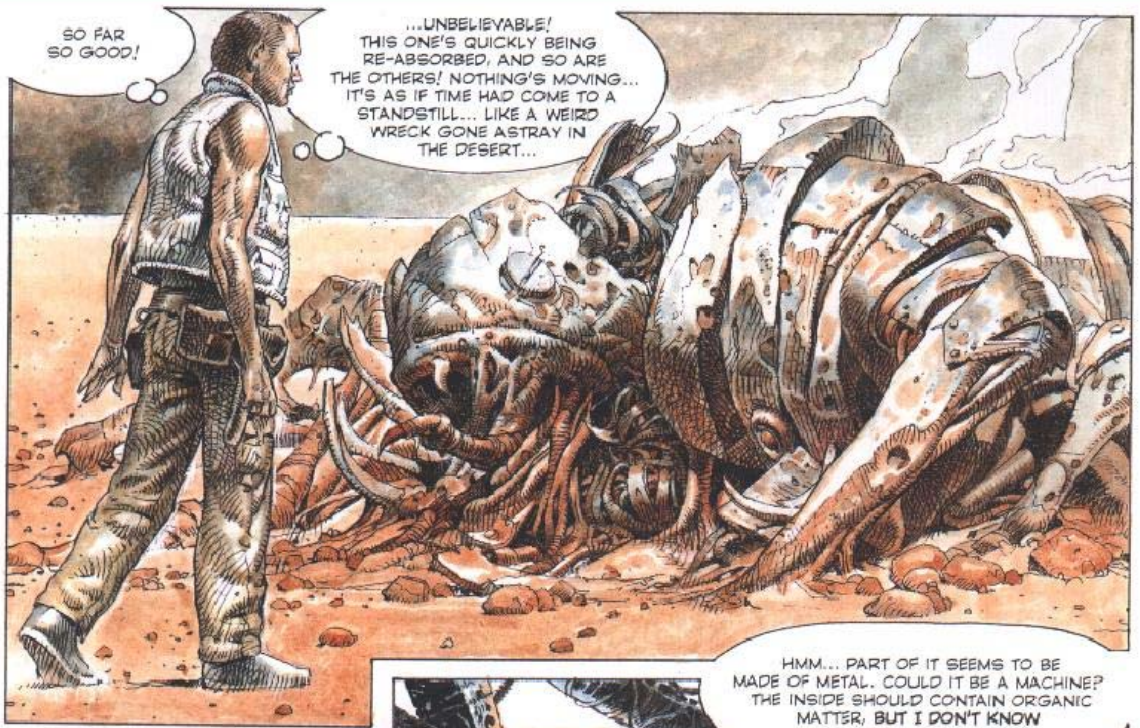


I SHOULD USE
MY WEAPON... BUT IT
WILL PROBABLY BE OF NO
USE AGAINST THESE CREATURES!
THE MEDICATION I'VE TAKEN
GENERATED AN INTERNAL POWER
FIELD. NOW'S THE TIME TO SEE
IF IT REALLY WORKS...!
ONE OF THE MONSTERS IS
GETTING CLOSER...!



HEY, IT'S
SLOWED DOWN... IT
SEEMS TO HAVE BECOME
COMPLETELY IMMOBILE...
IS THE ANTIDOTE
WORKING?

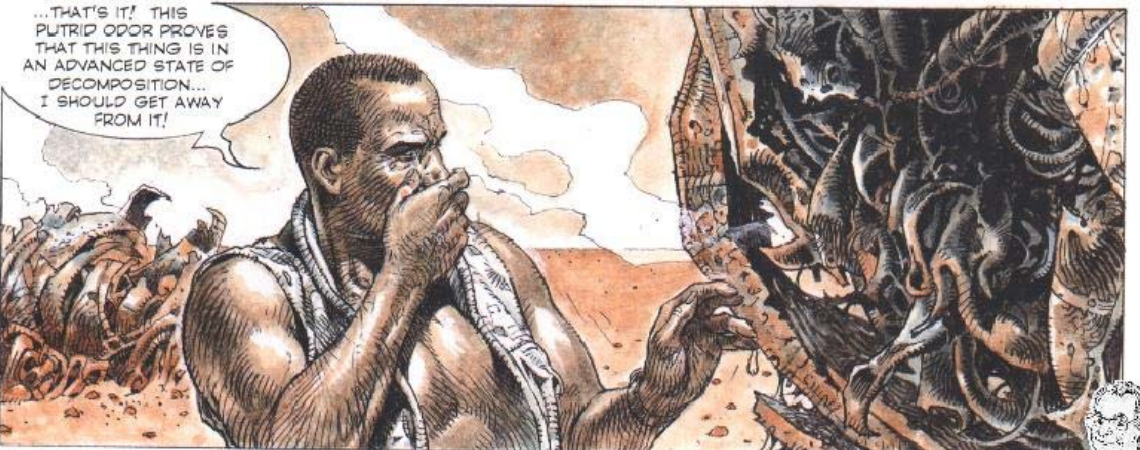




SO FAR
SO GOOD!

...UNBELIEVABLE!
THIS ONE'S QUICKLY BEING
RE-ABSORBED, AND SO ARE
THE OTHERS! NOTHING'S MOVING...
IT'S AS IF TIME HAD COME TO A
STANDSTILL... LIKE A WEIRD
WRECK GONE ASTRAY IN
THE DESERT...

HMM... PART OF IT SEEMS TO BE
MADE OF METAL. COULD IT BE A MACHINE?
THE INSIDE SHOULD CONTAIN ORGANIC
MATTER, BUT I DON'T KNOW
FOR SURE...




...THAT'S IT! THIS
PUTRID ODOR PROVES
THAT THIS THING IS IN
AN ADVANCED STATE OF
DECOMPOSITION...
I SHOULD GET AWAY
FROM IT!

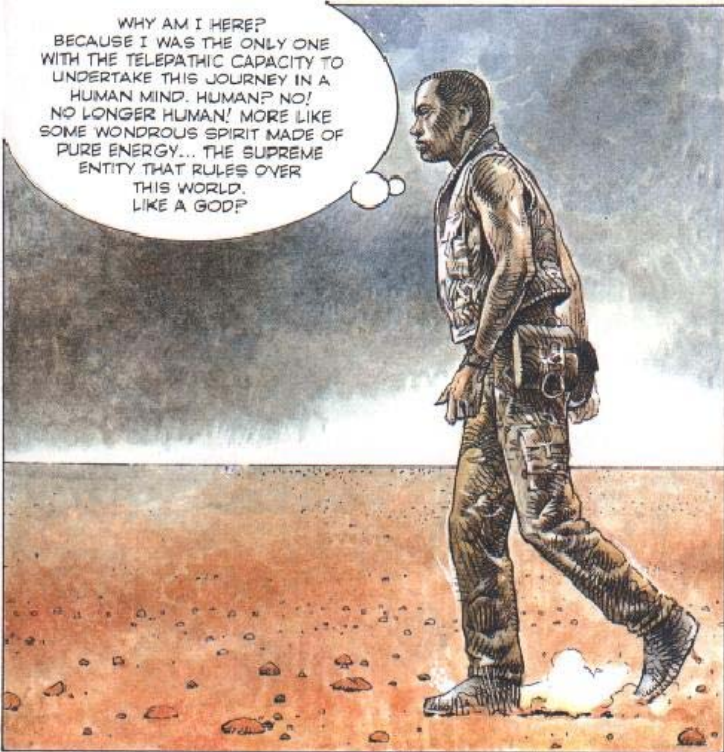


THE GROUND ABSORBS THEM! IS THE DESERT GRADUALLY RECALLING THEM?


I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY WERE MADE OF, BUT THE PROCESS OF DECOMPOSITION IS FAST. HMM, MAYBE I HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT HOW TO CONTROL THE TIME PHASES OF THIS DIMENSION.




I'LL PUSH ON AND THINK ABOUT IT LATER. I CAN'T STOP HERE. BUT I WANT TO UNDERSTAND... THE WHYS AND WHEREFORES OF THIS DESERT. DOES IT EVER END?



WHY AM I HERE? BECAUSE I WAS THE ONLY ONE WITH THE TELEPATHIC CAPACITY TO UNDERTAKE THIS JOURNEY IN A HUMAN MIND. HUMAN? NO! NO LONGER HUMAN! MORE LIKE SOME WONDROUS SPIRIT MADE OF PURE ENERGY... THE SUPREME ENTITY THAT RULES OVER THIS WORLD. LIKE A GOD?



I'M DELIRIOUS... SHIT! HOW COULD I EVEN THINK I'M A GOD... IT'S ABSURD! I MUST BE TIRED... I NEED TO REST...





THE SKY'S GETTING DARKER... I HAVE TO REST. I NEED TO RECOVER MY STRENGTH!



I MUSTN'T DOZE OFF... BUT I'M TOO TIRED... EVERYTHING'S GETTING MIXED UP IN MY MIND. I MUST CONTROL MY FEELINGS AND ANXIETIES... AS I'VE ALWAYS DONE, AS I'VE BEEN TAUGHT TO DO. BUT THIS TIME I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO TRIUMPH OVER MYSELF, AS I'VE ALWAYS DONE SINCE... WHEN?



...SINCE WHEN THAT WOMAN... YES, THAT'S IT... DRUUNA... OH! DRUUNA, I'M HERE FOR YOU... I'VE ENTICED YOU INTO THIS DREAM... INTO THIS ABSURD NIGHTMARE... YOU WERE CHOSEN AMONG US ALL TO BE UNITED WITH THE "SPIRIT"... AND BECAUSE OF THAT MAD ATTEMPT, ALL THAT'S LEFT NOW IS YOUR MAGNIFICENT, SENSUAL BODY... YOUR COLD BODY... BUT YOU'RE NO MORE... WHERE ARE YOU MY LOVE? DON'T DIE... DON'T DIE!



DRUUNA... WHERE ARE YOU... WHERE ARE YOU?



DRUUNA...

...AH... AH... OOH... OH... OH...



AH! OH!
YES...
YES!

THOSE
MOANS SEEM
TO BE COMING
FROM THIS
OPENING!



...THEY AREN'T
MOANS... THEY'RE
CRIES OF PAIN...
THEY ARE...
IT'S YOUR VOICE
AND...



AH!!!
AHHHAH...
HMMM... OH, YES...
OH!







...YES... AH...
AH... YES!
AHHH!!



NO... NO.
I CAN'T...
DRUUNA, I CAN'T
HELP YOU, BECAUSE A
GREATER EVIL FORCE
HAS PARALYZED MY
WILL... AND IT'S
MAKING ME LOOK...
AND ENJOY THIS
HORRIBLE SIGHT!



HEY... SOMEONE'S
LURKING BEHIND THE
DOOR... WHAT IS IT?...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
NO... NO!





NO... NO...
DRUUNA... NO...
NOT LIKE THAT!



DRUUNA...
NO... NO! OH!
WHERE AM I?

...I'M STILL IN THE SAME DESERT... I
FELL ASLEEP... YEAH... I WAS
DREAMING... IT WAS A NIGHTMARE!
BUT IT FELT SO REAL... DRUUNA AND
THOSE MONSTROUS CREATURES...
IT WAS AWFUL! AND I WAS THERE,
MOTIONLESS, WATCHING YOU,
FASCINATED... I COULDN'T REACT...
I JUST COULDN'T... YOU LOOKED
AT ME AND SMILED... OH, SUCH
A SMILE! YOUR EYES!
MY GOD, THE LOOK
IN YOUR EYES!

WHAT COULD THE DREAM
MEAN?? BUT DO DREAMS
REALLY MEAN ANYTHING? TO
LIVE THROUGH A DREAM IN
SOMEONE ELSE'S DREAM AND
THEN DREAM ONESELF? IT'S
INCREDIBLE. ABSOLUTELY
ABSURD!



...THE FEELINGS I HAVE FOR THAT WOMAN SEEM UNNATURAL TO ME... I MUST BE CAREFUL. I HAVE TO CONTROL MYSELF... AND WHAT THE HELL'S THAT!?



...JUDGING FROM THE DUST, I GUESS IT'S BEEN HERE FOR A WHILE. STRANGE. LOOKS LIKE AN ANDROID OR A ROBOT IN POOR CONDITION... YEAH, MAYBE AN ANCIENT SERIES, THE PRODUCT OF SOME OBSOLETE TECHNOLOGY...



OR ELSE...

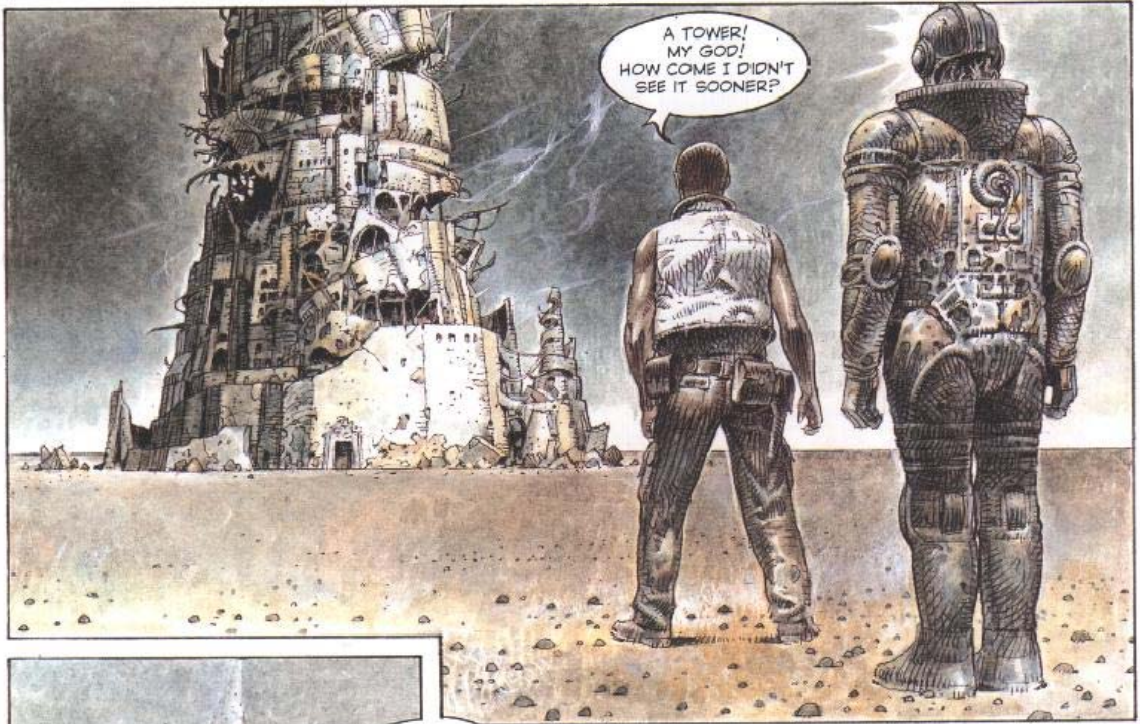


IT COULD BE... A PRIMITIVE SPECIES... WITH A SHEATH OR, MAYBE, A SHELL TO PROTECT IT... HEY, IS THAT ONLY A REFLECTION... OR...?



YES. IT'S REFLECTING SOMETHING THAT'S BEHIND ME!





A TOWER!
MY GOD!
HOW COME I DIDN'T
SEE IT SOONER?

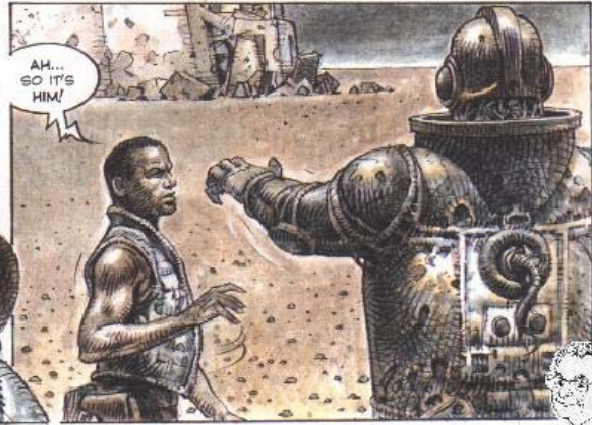


IT'S SO HIGH
THAT I CAN'T SEE
THE TOP... DID IT JUST
MATERIALIZED OUT OF
NOWHERE... OR DID I
REALLY NOT SEE IT? P
YEAH, I GUESS THAT'S
THE WAY IT IS... SO
MANY THINGS EXIST IN
THIS DESERT THAT I
CAN'T SEEM TO
SEE!



YEAH... "THAT
I CAN'T SEEM TO SEE"...
HMM... BUT WH... P
THIS IDEA JUST CAME TO ME,
SUDDENLY AND...
UNEXPECTEDLY...

IT JUST POPPED INTO
MY HEAD, STRANGELY
CONFUSED AT FIRST, THEN
SHARP AND CLEAR... WHAT
...WHAT'S THAT
VIBRATION... P



AH...
SO IT'S
HIM!



TELEPATHY!
HE'S TRYING TO
SEND ME A
MESSAGE!

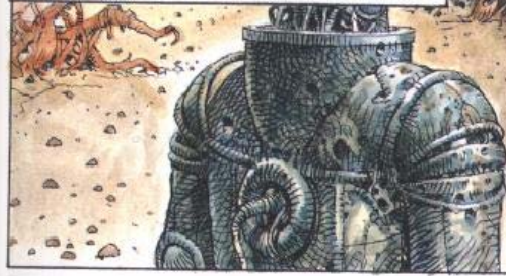


MY GOD!
THESE ARE HUMAN
EYES! THEY'RE TRYING TO
TELL ME SOMETHING...
YEAH, BUT... I CAN'T MAKE
IT OUT... THE VIBRATION'S
TOO STRONG...



NOW, I GET IT:
"AMONG THE SHADOWS ALONG THE
PATH OF KNOWLEDGE..." THE TOWER!
HE'S TALKING ABOUT THE TOWER!
"THE ONE AND ONLY PATH... THE
SOLE CHANCE OF SURVIVAL..."
SURVIVAL? SURVIVING... WHAT?
"ANTIBODIES..." WHICH
ANTIBODIES?

GOOD
HEAVENS...!

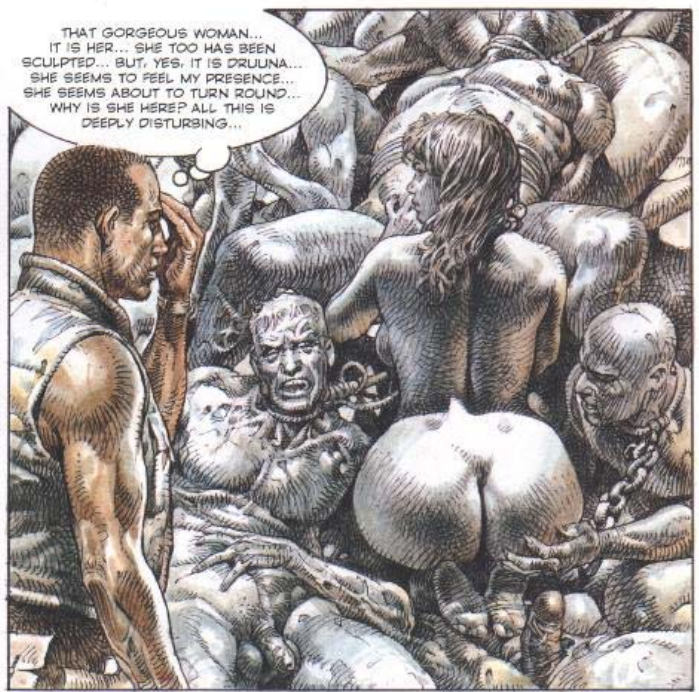
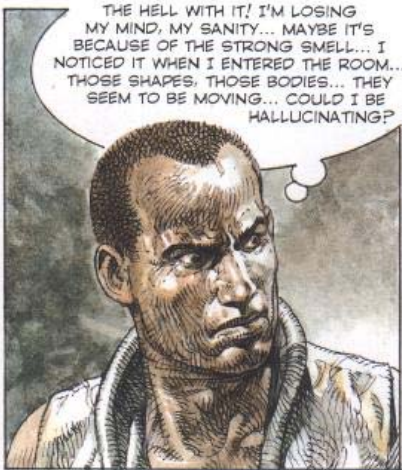



...THE ANTIDOTE
MUST HAVE STOPPED
WORKING! GOT TO GET
TO THE TOWER... IF THAT'S
THE SOLE CHANCE OF
SURVIVAL... QUICK!
I MUST HURRY!













AH, DRUUNA!
SUCH PAINFUL AND
HEARTRENDING MEMORIES...
YOU SENT HER TO THIS HELL!
I CAN'T BEAR IT! MY FIRST
REACTION WAS TO KILL YOU!
BUT NOW THAT I'M HERE...
I FEEL SO CLOSELY TIED
TO LIFE, FOR THE SHORT
WHILE I'VE GOT LEFT TO LIVE,
THAT I NO LONGER FEEL I
CAN DO IT... AND IF I DID...
DRUUNA WOULD BE
SO ALONE!


DRUUNA--
BECAUSE OF HER
TELEPATHIC
POWERS--WAS THE
ONLY ONE WHO
COULD CONTACT
LEWIS, AND...



I CAN UNDERSTAND
YOUR PROBLEM AND I'M
TRYING TO SOLVE IT, BUT,
FROM WHERE I AM, IT'S VERY
DIFFICULT TO CONTACT THE
COMPUTER ON BOARD YOUR
SPACECRAFT, FIND DRUUNA,
SAVE HER AND TAKE HER BACK
TO WHERE SHE CAME FROM.
LEAVE THIS MAD
PLACE...!



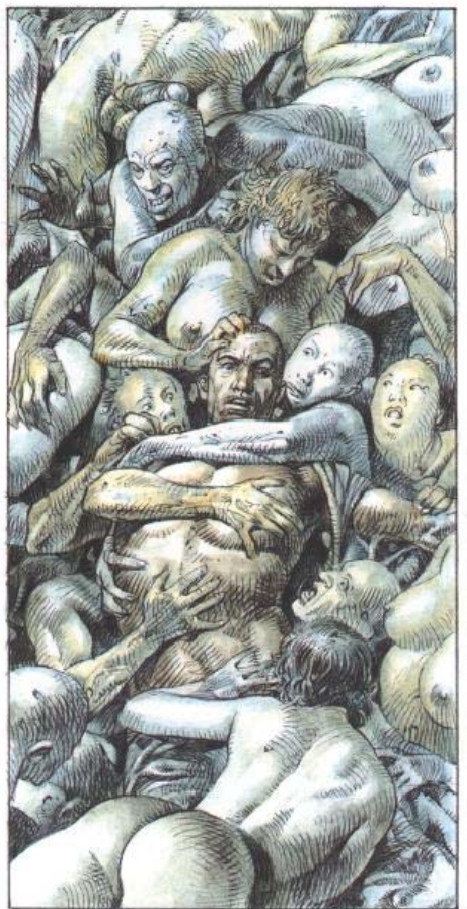
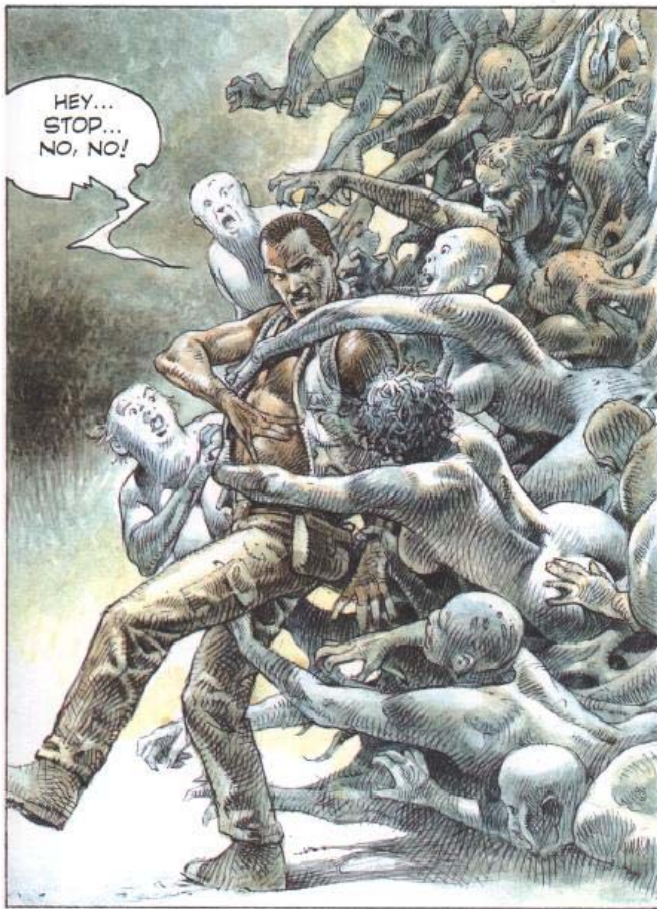
YOU'RE THE ONE
WHO APPEARED TO ME
AS A ROBOT IN THE DESERT.
YOU SHOWED ME THE WAY
AND SAVED MY LIFE. I SAW
YOU DIE AND NOW...



LIFE, DEATH...
THIS IS A WORLD OF
ILLUSIONS... I DIED LONG AGO...
BUT YOU'RE ALIVE, COMMANDER
WILLIAMSON, AND IN THIS PLACE
YOU HAVE TO USE YOUR MIND
RATIONALLY. BE CAREFUL...
OF REASON!

KEEP ALL EMOTIONS AND
FEELINGS SEPARATE FROM YOU.
REMEMBER, THEY DON'T BELONG
TO YOU! IF YOU FAIL, YOU WILL
LOSE YOURSELF IN THE
NIGHTMARE... IN HIS
NIGHTMARE...







DRUUNA!
YOU, YOU...
OH! NO,
NO!



OH, MY GOD!
AAH... ARGH...
NO...!



AAARGH!



AAHHHHHHH



THESE CLAMMY BODIES! HOW AWFUL! THOSE
CLAW-LIKE HANDS... THAT KEPT TRYING TO RIP
OUT MY BRAIN... BUT THE MOST HORRIBLE THING
WAS THE FEELING THAT THEY WANTED TO
ANNIHILATE MY MIND, MY IDENTITY, MY
VERY BEING...

YEAH, THE MIND...
THAT'S LEWIS' OBSESSION...
HE WANTS TO TAKE OVER
MINDS AND SPIRITS--ALL
THAT VITAL ENERGY! I'M
FINALLY BEGINNING TO
UNDERSTAND!

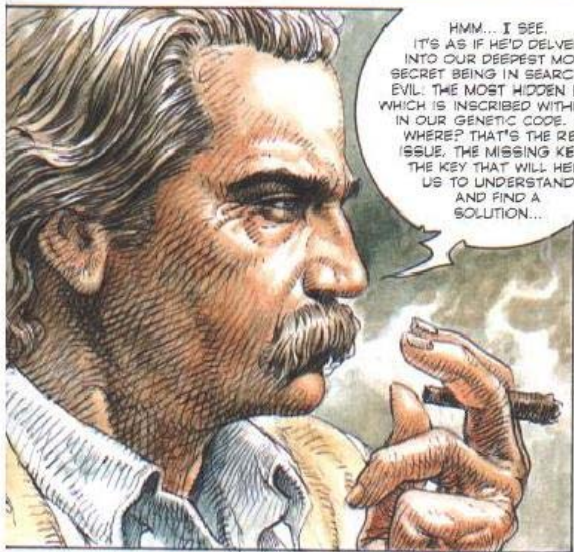
DRUUNA WAS
THERE... UNLESS
THAT WAS JUST A
PROJECTION OF MY
SUBCONSCIOUS...



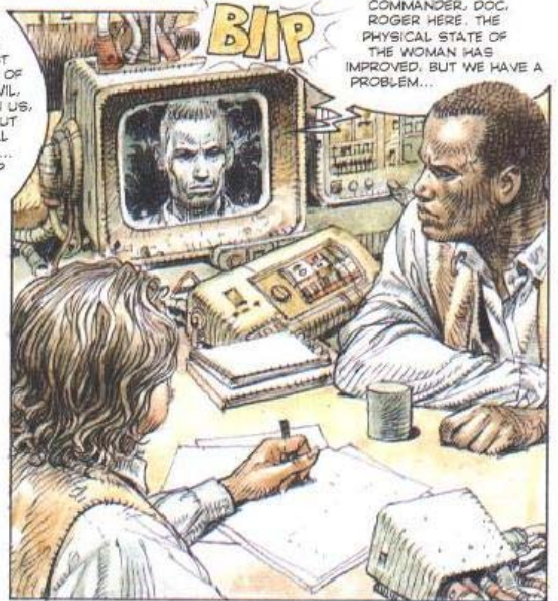
NO, NOT YOURS, BUT LEWIS' SUBCONSCIOUS. I THINK THAT ANYONE WHO SUCCEEDS IN ENTERING HIS DREAM WILL HAVE VERY LITTLE AUTONOMY. MY THEORY IS THAT A PART OF YOU REMAINED BEHIND-- NOT JUST YOUR VIRTUAL IMAGE, BUT PART OF YOUR MIND AS WELL!

YOU MEAN TO SAY THAT LEWIS HAS FUSED MY MIND WITH HIS, AS HE TRIED TO DO DURING YOUR FIRST JOURNEY?

YES, SORT OF, BUT FUSED ISN'T THE RIGHT WORD. IT'S AS IF HE'D TRIED TO TAKE OVER YOUR WHOLE EXISTENCE: YOUR MEMORIES, YOUR LOVES AND HATES, YOUR SUFFERINGS, AND YOUR MOST INTIMATE DESIRES. IT COULD BE SAID--TO BORROW AN ANCIENT THEOSOPHICAL NOTION--THAT HE TRIED TO STEAL YOUR SOUL.



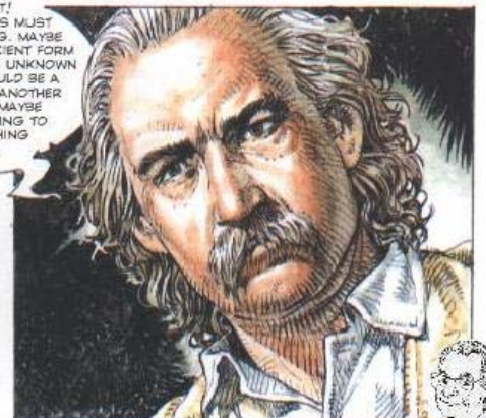
HMM... I SEE. IT'S AS IF HE'D DELVED INTO OUR DEEPEST MOST SECRET BEING IN SEARCH OF EVIL, THE MOST HIDDEN EVIL, WHICH IS INSCRIBED WITHIN US, IN OUR GENETIC CODE, BUT WHERE? THAT'S THE REAL ISSUE, THE MISSING KEY... THE KEY THAT WILL HELP US TO UNDERSTAND AND FIND A SOLUTION...



COMMANDER, DOC, ROGER HERE. THE PHYSICAL STATE OF THE WOMAN HAS IMPROVED, BUT WE HAVE A PROBLEM...



THE NEUROLOGICAL RECEPTORS ARE TRANSMITTING A STRANGE MESSAGE... I THINK THE WOMAN'S BRAIN HAS GONE INTO COMPLETE, IRREVERSIBLE REGRESSION!



NO... WAIT! THOSE SYMBOLS MUST MEAN SOMETHING. MAYBE THEY'RE SOME ANCIENT FORM OF WRITING THAT'S UNKNOWN TO US. THEY COULD BE A MESSAGE FROM ANOTHER PLANET... OR MAYBE DRULUNA'S TRYING TO SAY SOMETHING TO US!



I'VE GOT TO GO BACK, DOC. YOU HAVE TO SEND ME BACK. NOW THAT I KNOW A BIT MORE, I HAVE TO TRY AGAIN BECAUSE SHE'LL NEVER MAKE IT ON HER OWN!

IT'S YOUR DECISION, WILL, BUT I DON'T ADVISE IT. I MANAGED TO BRING YOU BACK ONCE, BUT I DON'T THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO DO IT AGAIN. AND I'M SURE THAT

IF YOU GO BACK THERE, YOUR PRESENCE WILL LEAD TO A DANGEROUS DIMENSIONAL CHANGE. IF MY THEORY IS CORRECT, YOU'LL ENTER INTO CONFLICT WITH YOUR "PARADOXICAL EGO"-- THE PART OF YOU THAT WAS LEFT BEHIND-- AND YOUR MIND WILL BE UNABLE TO COPE WITH THE RESULTING EMOTIONAL STRESS!



HMM... FOR THE MOMENT, LET'S TRY TO DECIPHER THESE SYMBOLS. WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING... AND IF WE DON'T GET ANY RESULTS, WE'LL JUST KEEP ON TRYING! REMEMBER, DOC, I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS A CHANCE OF SUCCEEDING!

OH, MY GOD, I HAVE A STRANGE FEELING. THAT SYMBOL IS VERY DISTURBING... BUT WHY?



IT'S LIKE SOME SORT OF VIBRATION... MY WHOLE BODY FEELS HOT... AND PAINFUL... IS IT YOU, DRUUNAP? IS IT YOU?

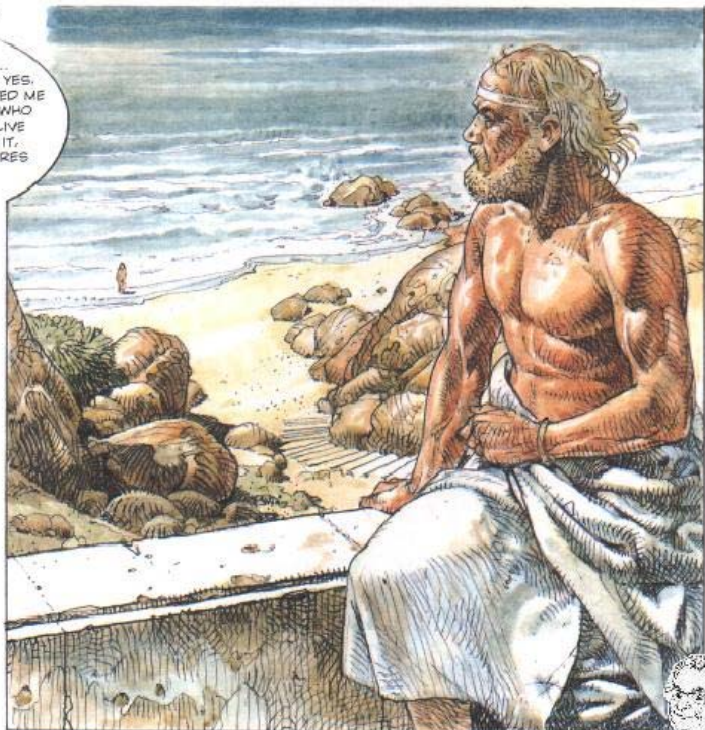


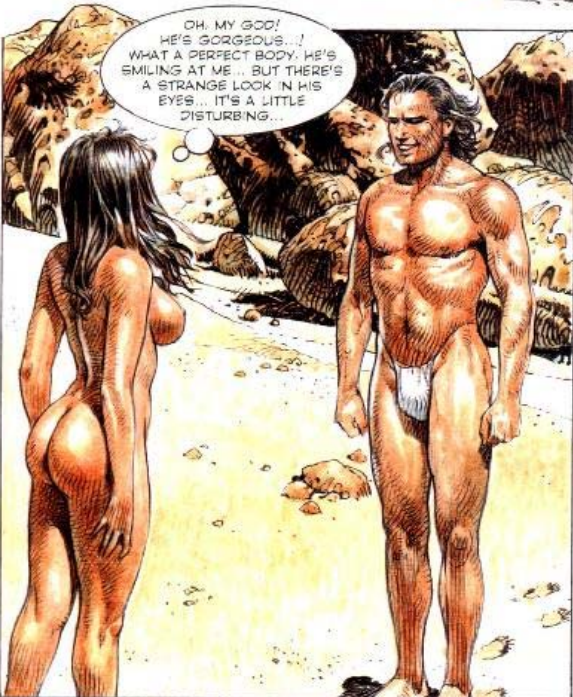
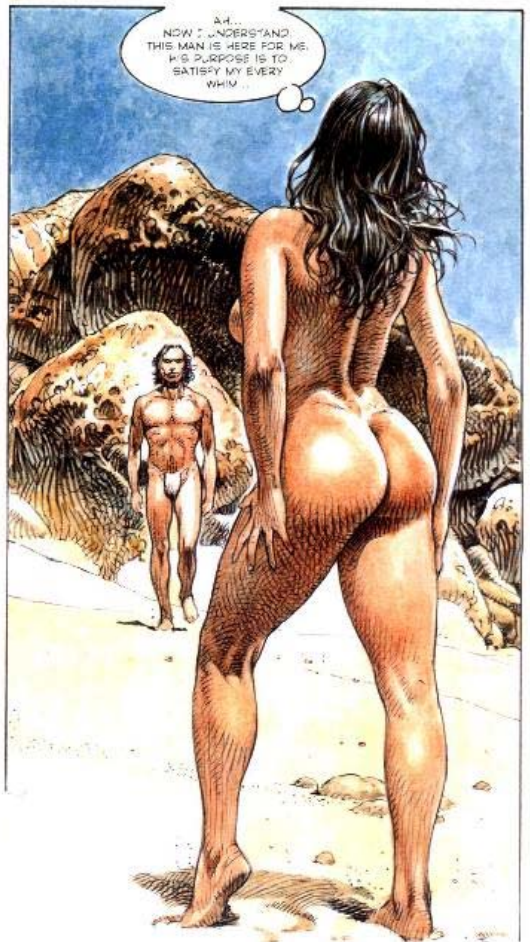


THERE, ON THE
HOT SAND... COULD
THAT BE... HIM? HIM,
WHO...? I'M LOSING MY
MIND... THE PURE AIR
AND THAT POWERFUL
PERFUME ARE SO
DISQUIETING...
I FEEL HAPPY...
EXCITED...



THERE'S
SOMEONE UP THERE...
IS HE WAITING FOR ME? YES,
HE'S THE ONE WHO WANTED ME
TO COME BACK HERE... WHO
WANTED ME TO FEEL ALIVE
AGAIN. I JUST KNOW IT.
I CAN FEEL IT. HIS DESIRES
ARE INSIDE MY
MIND...



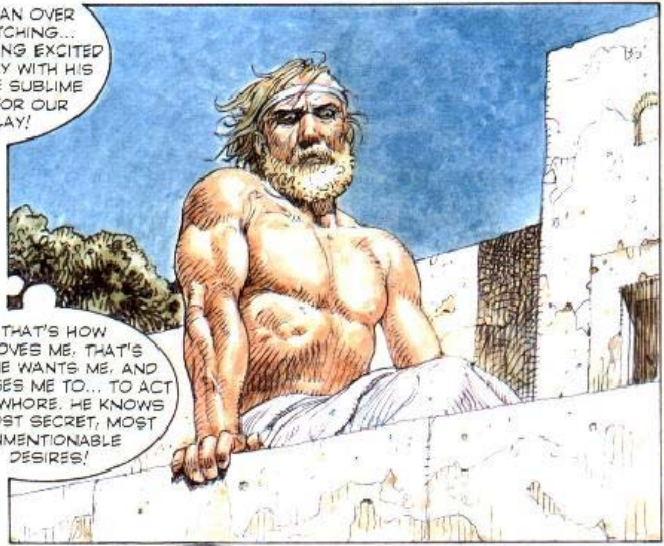




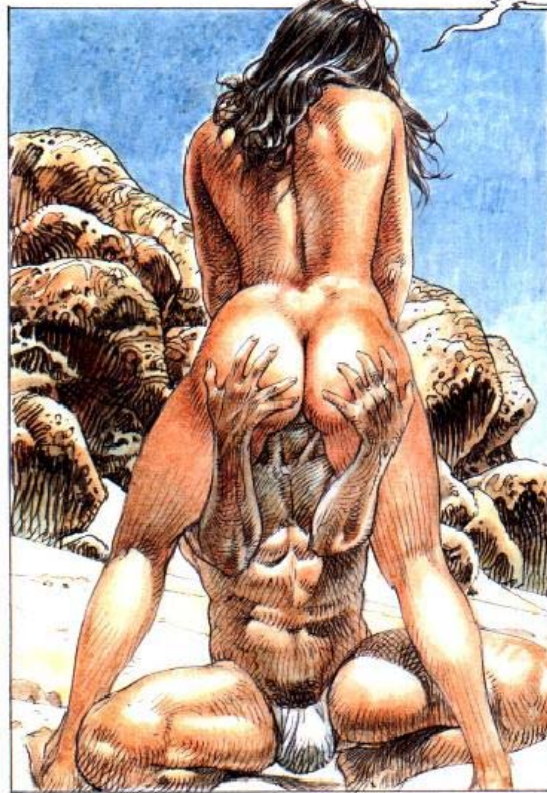
THE OTHER MAN OVER THERE IS WATCHING... AND HE'S GETTING EXCITED SEEING ME PLAY WITH HIS CROTCH... THE SUBLINE IMPLÉMENT FOR OUR LOVE PLAY!

THAT'S HOW HE LOVES ME. THAT'S HOW HE WANTS ME, AND IT PLEASES ME TO... TO ACT LIKE A WHORE. HE KNOWS MY MOST SECRET, MOST UNMENTIONABLE DESIRES!

DON'T STOP... YESSSS... MMMMMMMMMMMHHHH... IT'S SOOOO GOOD!



THAT'S IT, YES... YES... LIKE THAT, LICK ME. YEEESSS... RUN YOUR TONGUE OVER MY SKIN...





WAIT... WAIT...
LET ME GET TO KNOW
YOU... MMMMMH... IT'S
SOOO BIG. LET ME TOUCH
IT... YES, I WANT TO TAKE
ALL OF IT INTO MY
MOUTH!

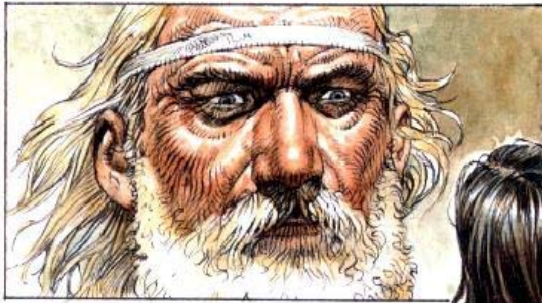


MMMMH... OH
YOU'RE SO GOOD...!
AND IT'S SO
BEAUTIFUL...

MMMMMMH...



OH...
YOU CAME CLOSER
TO ME... SO YOU COULD SEE
BETTER? YES, LOOK AT ME,
LOOK! DO YOU LIKE IT? HE IS
SO HARD... HE IS SO GOOD,
AND I CAN FEEL HIM,
PENETRATING ME...
AHHH....





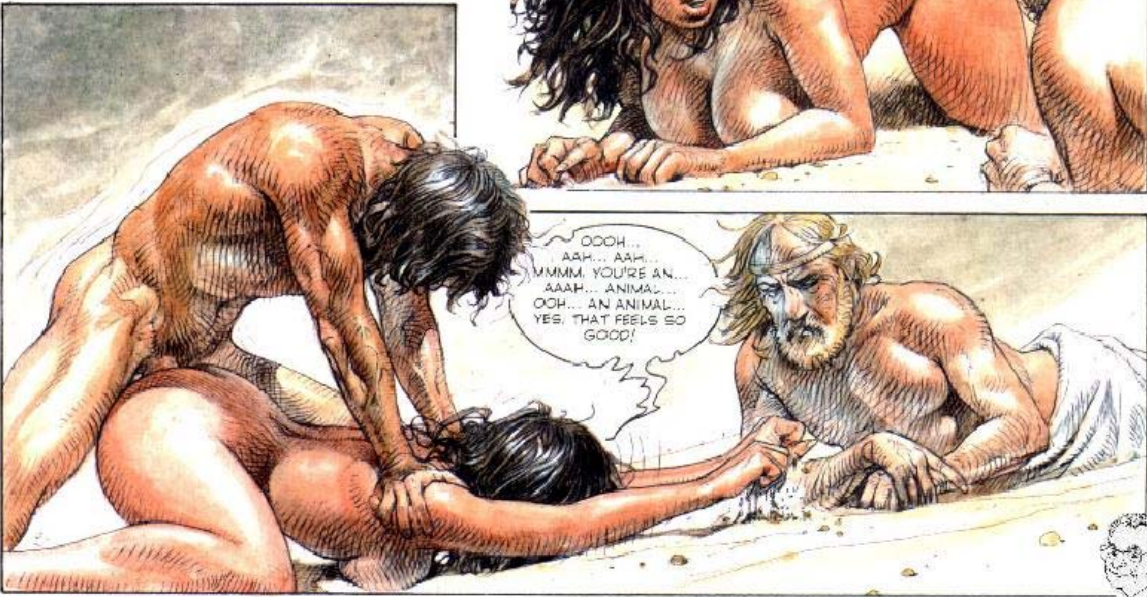
YES... YES... COME CLOSER...
YES, THAT'S RIGHT... HE'S LOOKING... HE'S
LOOKING FOR ME... HE'S OPENING ME...
LOOK! NOW HE'S FEELING INSIDE OF ME...
THAT'S IT... THAT'S GOOD... I FEEL... I COULD
DIE OF PLEASURE... I'VE ALWAYS LIKED IT...
AND FOR YOUR SAKE HE GIVES
ME JOY... I CAN FEEL
YOUR JOY.



... YES... LIKE THAT...
I'M OPENING UP
NICELY... AAAH...
CAREFULLY... YOU'RE
SO BIG... I CAN FEEL YOU
FARTHER AND FARTHER...
YES... YOU'RE
COMPLETELY INSIDE
ME... AH... IT FEELS
SO GOOD.



AAAHH... I CAN
FEEL YOU...
YES... GO IN...
FARTHER IN...
FARTHER!

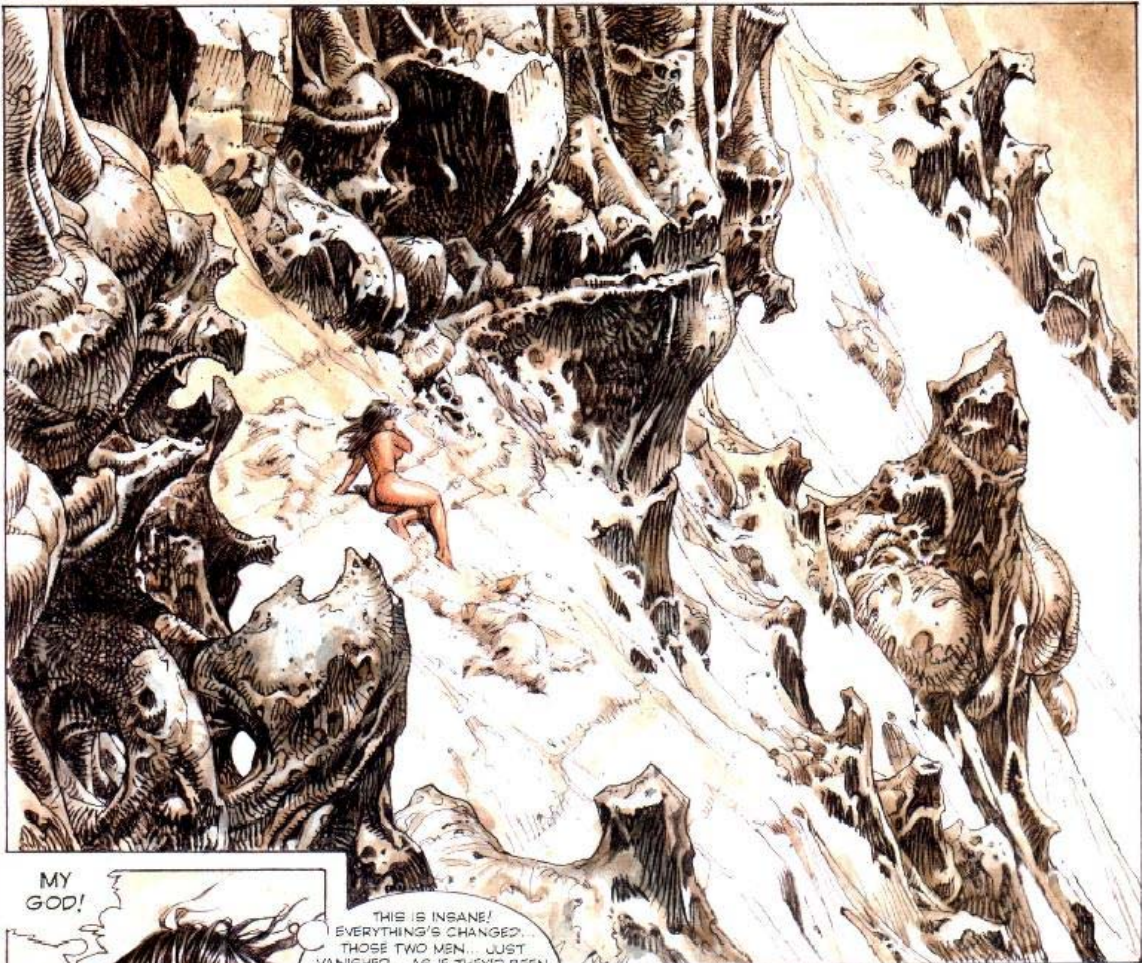


OOOH...
AAH... AAH...
MMMM... YOU'RE AN...
AAAH... AN ANIMAL...
OOH... AN ANIMAL...
YES... THAT FEELS SO
GOOD!









MY
GOD!

THIS IS INSANE!
EVERYTHING'S CHANGED...
THOSE TWO MEN... JUST
VANISHED... AS IF THEY'D BEEN
GROUND INTO THE SAND...
THE ROCKS... THE SEA...
THERE'S NO MORE WATER...
I'M BEING DRAGGED INTO
A HELLISH WORLD.

DAMN IT, I'M SLIPPING...
I'M BEING DRAGGED DOWN
BY THE STORM. I MUST
HANG ON! OH HELL!
WHERE AM I GOING
TO END UP?





HEY! THE WALL IS TILTING... IT'S GOING TO COLLAPSE... BUT, IT SEEMS THERE'S SOMETHING UP THERE...!

I CAN'T SEE WHAT IT IS... IT LOOKS LIKE SOME SORT OF CONSTRUCTION... I'VE GOT TO CLIMB UP ONTO THE PLATFORM BEFORE...



OH, MY GOD... THE WALL IS NOW COMPLETELY VERTICAL... I'VE GOT TO MAKE... I'VE GOT TO MAKE IT!



THERE... I'VE GOT IT!



AH!





YES, YOU... YOU ARE ME... LOOK AT ME! I'M YOU! I DREAMED OF YOU... I KNEW THAT YOU'D COME... I CAME HERE FOR YOU!

YOU... YOU'RE ME... BUT THAT'S INEANE... HOW COULD THAT BE POSSIBLE AM I IN FRONT OF A MIRROR OR WHAT? NONE OF THIS MAKES ANY SENSE!

I KNOW IT MUST SEEM WEIRD... EVEN FOR ME IT DOES... BUT THAT'S THE WAY IT IS! AND DON'T ASK ME HOW IT ALL HAPPENED, I'VE NO IDEA! AND I'M NOT EVEN SURE IF I LIKE THE FACT THAT THERE'S ANOTHER DRUUNA AROUND... BESIDES THE ORIGINAL ONE!

THE ORIGINAL ONE? AND WHO WOULD THAT BE? JUST HOLD ON A MINUTE... YOU MENTIONED DRUUNA, WHO'S DRUUNA? YOU!



YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT! BUT WHY ARE YOU SO SURPRISED? THAT MUST BE YOUR NAME, SEEING THAT YOU'RE MY DOUBLE!

HEY! I'M NOBODY'S DOUBLE...! AND MY NAME IS NOT...



IT'S... HOLY SHIT! HOW COULD I HAVE FORGOTTEN MY NAME? LATELY, I'VE UNDERGONE SOME ROUGH MOMENTS AND I FEEL A BIT LOST... MAYBE... HE... ALREADY... WHEN HE WROTE THOSE LETTERS IN THE SAND... AND I MANAGED TO DECIPHER THEM... OF COURSE THAT WAS ME... 'CAUSE I'M... APHRODISIA!



APHRODISIA? YOUR NAME'S APHRODISIA? IT'S EVEN MORE AMAZING! OK, OK, GIVEN THIS CRAZY SITUATION, I GUESS THAT NAME MUST MEAN SOMETHING, THOUGH I CAN'T BE SURE, BUT LET'S TRY TO FIND THE ANSWER TOGETHER... LET'S NOT ARGUE... TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I QUITE LIKE YOU--HOW COULD I NOT LIKE YOU! LET'S GET AWAY FROM THIS PLACE, IT'S DANGEROUS.



COME THIS WAY! HURRY!

WHAT SORT OF DANGERS? AND WHERE ARE YE GOING?

HERE WE'RE ON THE OUTSIDE. THIS PLACE GIVES ME THE CREEPS... THE AIR FEELS HEAVY WITH UNNAMED THREATS. CAN'T YOU FEEL IT?

ON THE OUTSIDE OF WHAT? HEY! WHAT IS THAT?



I THINK THEY'RE SPIRITS OR ANTIODIES, OR SOME SORT OF MONSTROUS CREATURES THAT LIVE ON THE OUTSIDE... AND WHO ATTACK ANYONE WHO COMES NEAR THIS PLACE... LET'S GET AWAY FROM HERE!

I STILL DON'T GET WHAT'S GOING ON. A WHILE AGO, I WAS SURROUNDED BY SEA, SAND AND SUNSHINE. IT WAS A WONDERFUL PLACE! AND I... WAS MAKING LOVE!



YEAH, BUT YOU WERE DREAMING... AND IT WAS MY DREAM. I KNOW THAT PLACE. THAT WORLD... THE WORLD WE LOST. AND HE, LEWIS... IS RESPONSIBLE. THIS IS HIS DREAM WORLD. WITH HIS DESIRES, OBSESSIONS, AND ANXETIES... IT'S A NIGHTMARE... AND WE'RE PART OF IT.

LEWIS?



SOMETIMES I FEEL AS IF I WERE BURIED IN ANIMAL GUTS... MONSTROUS AND OBSCENE GUTS.





DID YOU SAY YOUR NAME WAS DRUUNA?

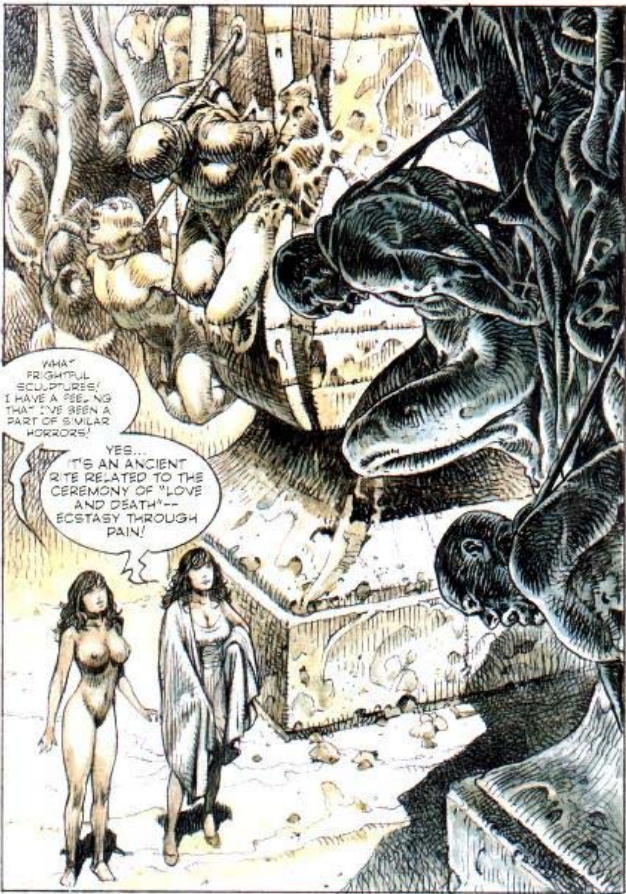
NO... NO... I WAS JUST WONDERING... WHERE ARE WE GOING?

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. WHY? DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?

DON'T BE AFRAID. TO A SAFE PLACE... THE ONLY ONE I KNOW OF TRUST ME!



UMMH... SURE, BUT I'LL BE CAREFUL. THAT WOMAN LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE ME... SHE'S MY DOUBLE, A CLONE, AND I DON'T LIKE IT--DON'T ASK ME WHY! SHE SAYS HER NAME IS DRUUNA, AND THOUGH THAT NAME DOESN'T RING ANY BELLS, IT UPSETS ME... BUT... I'LL THINK ABOUT IT LATER. FOR THE TIME BEING, I DON'T TRUST HER!



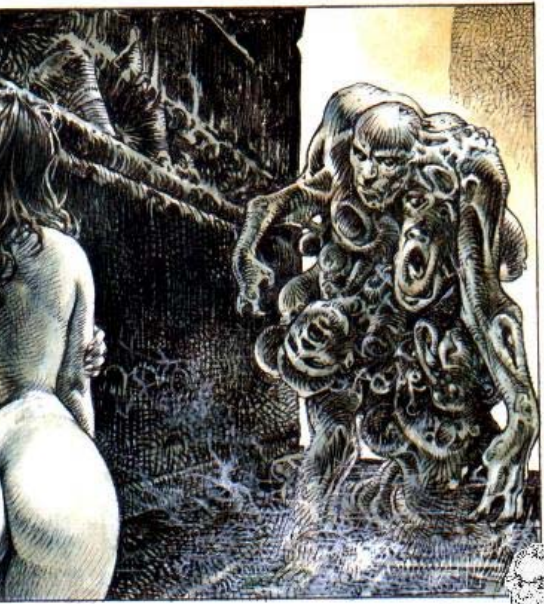
WHAT FRIGHTFUL SCULPTURES! I HAVE A FEELING THAT I'VE BEEN A PART OF SIMILAR HORRORS!

YES... IT'S AN ANCIENT RITE RELATED TO THE CEREMONY OF "LOVE AND DEATH" ECSTASY THROUGH PAIN!



THIS IS CONFUSING! IT SEEMS I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE THINGS YOU'RE TALKING OF, BUT I HAVEN'T A CLUE! I CAN'T REMEMBER!

NOW, YOU'LL REMEMBER. LOOK. HERE WE ARE... BEHIND THAT DOOR... WE MUST HURRY!





IT SHOULD WORK WITH THE OTHER HAND... ALL RIGHT! IT'S OPENING!

BUT THAT FACE... LOOK... BUT... IT'S... I KNOW HIM... HE REMINDS ME OF SOMEONE... YES, YES, IT'S HIM!



DRUUNA... DRUUNA... I USED TO BE WILL... DO YOU REMEMBER ME? WILL... I'M WHAT WILL LEFT BEHIND... IN THIS CURSED PLACE, I'M ALL THAT'S LEFT... OF... H'S... CLONE!



HE, THE "SPIRIT"... HE'S THE ONE WHO DEFORMS US... WHO TAKES OUR LIVES... AND A PART OF OUR INNERMOST BEINGS... TO DUPLICATE US... BECAUSE HE'S SEEKING SOMETHING IN US... PROBABLY IN OUR SOULS, SO AS TO POSSESS US... BUT HE CAN'T... HE ISN'T GOD!

HEY! NOW I'M STARTING TO REMEMBER. TO UNDERSTAND. HE'S THE ONE WHO CREATED APHROD'ISIA, MY DOUBLE... AND IN THAT CASE, I'M...

NO, NO, DON'T LISTEN TO HIM! THAT CREATURE IS DANGEROUS. COME... COME QUICKLY... TIME'S RUNNING OUT!

SHE... SHE'S LIKE ME... BE CAREFUL DRUUNA. TRY TO ESCAPE FROM THIS NIGHTMARE... GO BACK BEFORE IT DESTROYS YOU.



LISTEN TO ME! YOU MUST COME WITH ME. YOU MUST GET BEYOND ALL THIS. LET'S GO! NEITHER YOU NOR I CAN SURVIVE IN THIS PLACE! I WISH YOU NO HARM, BECAUSE I'M YOU... YOU UNDERSTAND THAT? BUT I'M ALSO A PART OF HIM... AND I ALONE CAN SUCCEED IN THIS MISSION! REMEMBER! THE MEN UP ABOVE... WAITING!

I WAS THERE... YOU COULDN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING, SO I LET YOU BELIEVE WHAT YOU WANTED. I TOOK OVER YOUR BODY AND YOUR MEMORY, BUT NOW THAT YOU'VE BECOME CONSCIOUS, I'M BEING TRANSFORMED, AND IT'S AWFUL!

YOU MISLED ME! WHY DID YOU LET ME BELIEVE THAT I WAS APHROD'ISIA?

BUT WHAT ABOUT HIM! HE'S WILL!



NO, THAT WAS HIS DOUBLE... NOW HE'S NOTHING BUT A DEFORMED CLONE. HE MUST STAY HERE FOR HIM, THERE'S NO WAY OUT.

AND I'LL END UP LIKE HIM, IF YOU DON'T COME WITH ME! IT'S NOW OR NEVER!



HURRY! THE DOOR'S ABOUT TO SLAM SHUT!

WAIT... OH!

NO, DRUUNA... NO!



WHAT?



WHAT'S HAPPENING? NO! THE PASSAGE HAS BECOME MORE DIFFICULT... I'M SORRY... THAT ONLY CONFIRMS THAT THERE'S ONE OF US TOO MANY!

AAAAH...



YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE... AS YOU KNOW, THIS PLACE IS FILLED WITH HORRORS, BUT ALSO WITH PERVERTED PLEASURES... BUT THAT'S OKAY WITH US, RIGHT? HE MADE ME IN YOUR IMAGE AND SO, LIKE YOU, I'M A DEPRAVED AND INSATIABLE WHORE!

MY GOD, I'M WORN OUT, HOW DID WE DO THIS? IT WAS AN OVERWHELMING SENSATION.

OOH... MY HEAD... DEPRAVED, WHO ME? HELL, WHO AM I? I SEEK PLEASURE... I LIVE FOR IT... SO WHAT?



YOU'LL BE CLOSER TO HIM HERE... THAT'S HOW HE WANTS YOU... HE LOVES YOU. HERE YOU'LL BE PROTECTED FROM EVIL... YOUR LIFE IS AS PRECIOUS TO ME AS IT IS TO YOU. I'M YOU...

HERE I AM AGAIN... IN THE BROTHEL, BUT... YOUR ARM! WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU...



YES, IT'S TAKING OVER MY BODY... OUR FACE-TO-FACE MEETING HERE IS SPEEDING UP THE TRANSFORMATION PROCESS... AND I'M SLOWLY BEING OBFUSCATED... YES, I WANT TO LIVE, TO LIVE A REAL LIFE... FORGIVE ME, DRUUNA, BUT I WISH TO TAKE YOUR PLACE, UP ABOVE, AMONG THE MEN... THEY'LL NEVER KNOW THE DIFFERENCE... AND THROUGH ME, HE WANTS TO POSSESS A PART OF LIFE... LIFE, DRUUNA, HE WANTS LIFE!

WHAT? NO, WAIT A MINUTE, FIRST, TELL ME HOW.



YOU CAN'T DO THAT, YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME HERE, DON'T DO IT! NO!

I HAVE TO... I'M LEAVING YOU... HE'S THE ONE THAT WANTS IT... GOODBYE...



DRUUNA, I'VE FINALLY FOUND YOU! COME, HURRY UP! I DON'T WANT THEM TO WHIP YOU!



PAULA! OH, PAULA... I REMEMBER... NOW I UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENING TO ME. IT'S AWFUL... HORRENDOUS. DO YOU UNDERSTAND? I'VE FALLEN INTO AN INFERNAL TRAP AND I'LL NEVER GET OUT!

YES, I UNDERSTAND, IT'S HARD FOR ME TOO... EVERYTHING'S HARD... BUT WE MUST SURVIVE AND I CAN'T FIND ANSWERS TO ANY OF MY QUESTIONS.





DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHO YOU ARE, WHERE YOU CAME FROM, AND WHY YOU'RE HERE? I KNOW THE ANSWERS NOW, BUT THE TRUTH WILL HURT YOU, PAULA. IT WILL CAUSE YOU GREAT PAIN.

YES, YES... PLEASE TELL ME NOT KNOWING IS EVEN MORE PAINFUL!



YOU AND I AND EVERYTHING THAT SURROUNDS US ARE ALL PART OF A DREAM. WE WERE DREAMED BY A "SPIRIT" WHO USED TO BE HUMAN AND IS NOW NOTHING BUT PURE ENERGY. HIS POWERS ARE AMAZING... EXTRAORDINARY. ONCE, ONE OF THE MEN FROM UP ABOVE TRIED TO ENTER THE DREAM BY TELEPATHY, HE WANTED TO CONTACT THE SPIRIT. YOU WERE PART OF THAT MAN'S PAST. DO YOU UNDERSTAND? YOU MUST HAVE BEEN HIS MOST INTENSE, MOST BURNING MEMORY, BECAUSE THE SPIRIT MATERIALIZED YOU, AND YOU BECAME PART OF HIS DREAM... YOU SEE, THE SPIRIT TAKES LIVES BECAUSE HE NEEDS... LIFE.



I'M... NOTHING BUT A MEMORY... A MAN'S MEMORY...



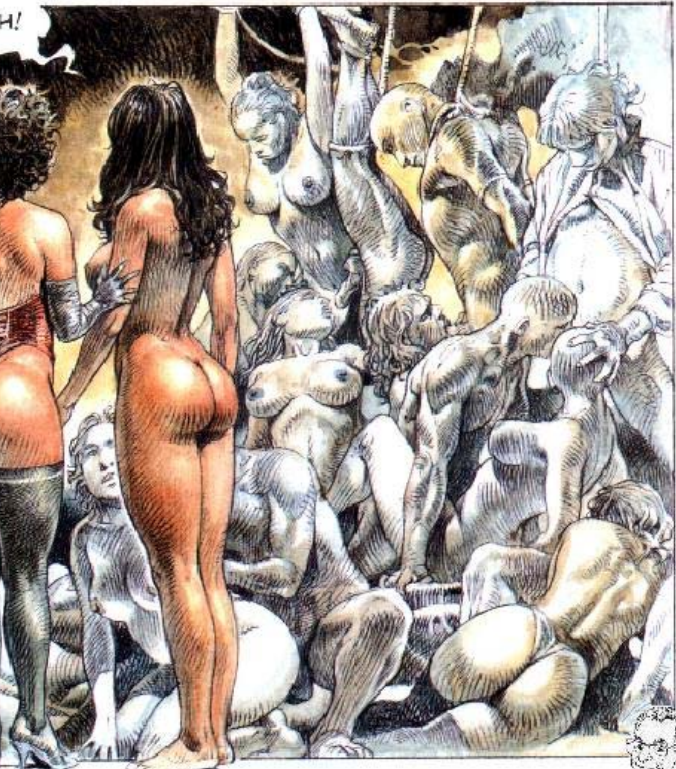
NO, YOU EXIST, PAULA. OR MAYBE YOU EXISTED IN ANOTHER WORLD... THE WORLD THAT MAN CAME FROM.



BUT FOR YOU, THE ONLY REALITY IS THIS WORLD, WHERE THE PAINFUL QUEST FOR PLEASURE IS ALL THAT MATTERS AND WHERE PAIN PROVIDES THE SOLE SUBLIME ORGASM... WHY FLEE FROM YOUR INESCAPABLE DESTINY? COME, MY DEARS, IT WOULD BE A SIN TO LET THIS WHIP TOUCH YOUR DELICATE SKINS. THE MEN ARE EXCITED AND THEY WANT TO TAKE YOU THE WAY THEY SHOULD!

SHUT UP, SHE'S RIGHT! IT'S THE ONLY SOLUTION FOR US!

BITCH!





DRUUNA, PLEASE TELL ME THAT MAN'S NAME... I THINK THAT WOULD HELP ME REMEMBER, EVEN IF IT FRIGHTENS ME

I NEVER REALLY KNEW HIS NAME EVERYONE CALLED HIM DOC...
YEAH, DOC!



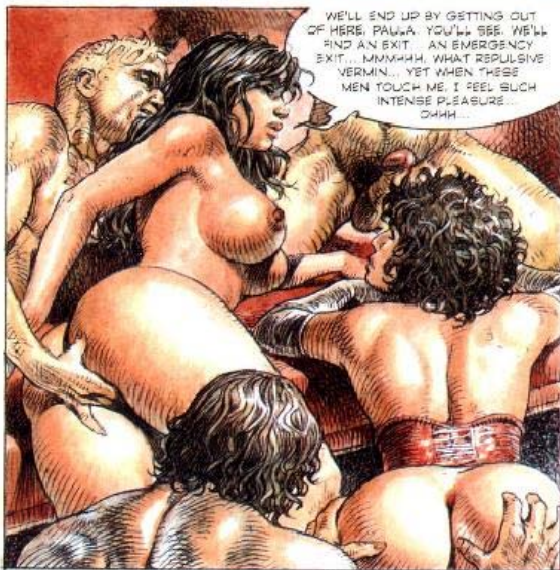
DOC...! DOC...
YEAH... MY GOD, THE SOUND OF HIS NAME MAKES ME FEEL WARM... EMOTIONAL... BUT IT'S DIFFICULT TO REMEMBER...
YET HE HASN'T FORGOTTEN ME... I'M IN HIS MIND, I'M THE CREATION OF HIS MEMORIES...

YOU WERE RIGHT... IT WAS PAINFUL... BUT I THANK YOU FOR TELLING ME THE TRUTH!

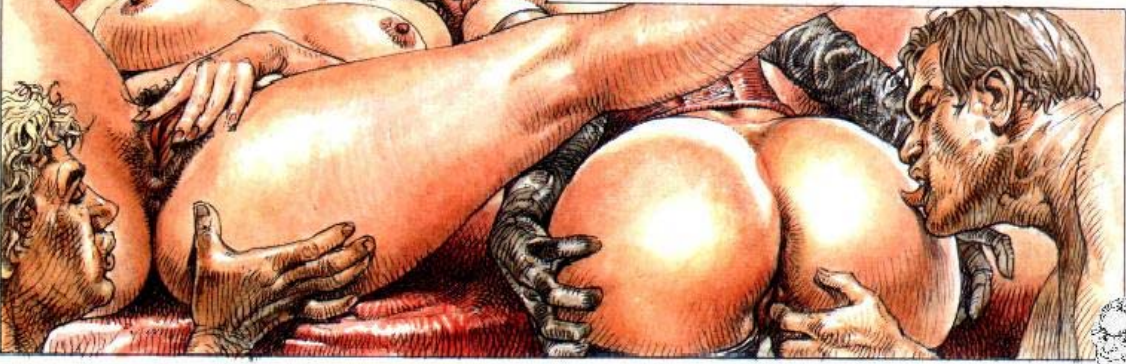


GOD... OH, GOD... IT'S MADNESS...
AHH... I NEVER FELT SUCH A PERFECT WHORE AS IN HIS BROTHER...
MMM-HMM... IT'S IRRESISTIBLE... I CAN'T CONTROL MYSELF.

IT'S IRRESISTIBLE FOR ME AS WELL... AND FOR THEM... CAN YOU SMELL THAT PERKUM? IT'S EVERYWHERE... IT'S AROMATIC AS... IT'S ENOUGH TO DRIVE YOU CRAZY, IT'S AN ASHRODISIAC



WE'LL END UP BY GETTING OUT OF HERE, PAUWA. YOU'LL SEE, WE'LL FIND AN EXIT, AN EMERGENCY EXIT... UMMMMH, WHAT REPULSIVE VERMIN... YET WHEN THESE MEN TOUCH ME, I FEEL SUCH INTENSE PLEASURE...
OHMM...





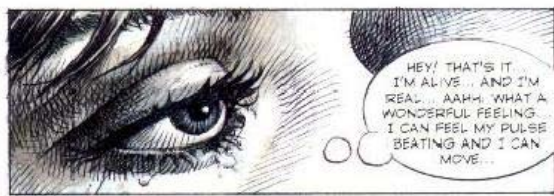
APHRODISIAC...
APHRODISIA... YES, THAT'S
RIGHT... THAT'S WHAT HE USED
TO CALL ME... AAHH... UP
ABOVE, LOVEMAKING WAS
WONDERFUL... THERE WAS
THE SEA... AND THE BLUE
SKY AND THE
HOT SAND...

AAAH... WHAT...
APHRODISIA? HE... AAAHH...
MY GOD, THEY'RE PENETRATING
ME... SODOMIZING ME... MMMHH
THAT HURTS... BUT I LIKE IT... I
LIKE IT UNTIL DEATH... WE ARE
ANIMALS... AAAH... YES... MORE
DON'T STOP... DO EVERYTHING
TO ME... I CAN FEEL IT
INSIDE ME...
OOH...

DAMN IT, I MUST
BE MAD. HERE I AM IN A
BROTHEL, AS RANDY AS A
BITCH IN HEAT, GETTING
TOUCHED, LICKED AND
PENETRATED BY OBSCENE
CREATURES--INSTEAD OF TRYING
TO FIGURE OUT A WAY OUT OF THIS
INFERNAL NIGHTMARE... I MUST
ESCAPE... BUT I CAN'T MOVE I'M
STUCK HERE. I CAN'T CONCENTRATE
OR EVEN THINK STRAIGHT, AND
WHAT ABOUT MY DOUBLED? CURSE THAT
CLONE? COULD SHE
REALLY HAVE TAKEN
MY PLACE IN THE
REAL WORLD? AND
BESIDES, WHAT'S
SHE UP TO RIGHT
NOW?



OH...



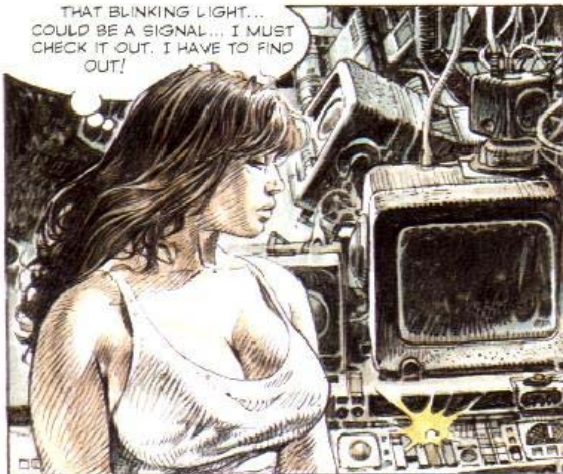
HEY! THAT'S IT...
I'M ALIVE... AND I'M
REAL... AAHH... WHAT A
WONDERFUL FEELING...
I CAN FEEL MY PULSE
BEATING AND I CAN
MOVE...



AND BUT WHAT
A MAD PLACE... WHERE
AM I? IS THIS NOT
WHERE I WAS SUPPOSED
TO BE WHEN I
WOKE UP?



THAT BLINKING LIGHT...
COULD BE A SIGNAL... I MUST
CHECK IT OUT. I HAVE TO FIND
OUT!

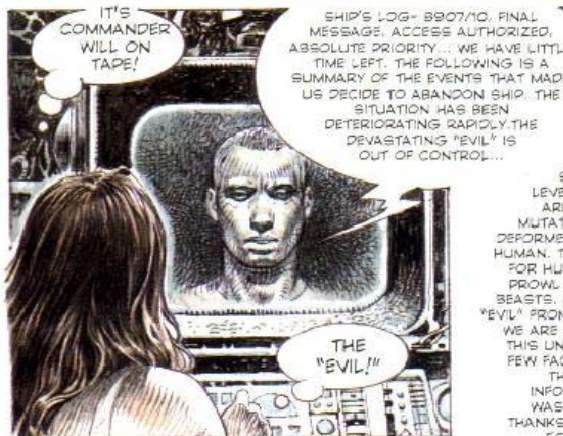


LET'S SEE
IF IT WORKS...
NO. WAIT...
THAT'S IT...
I DID IT!



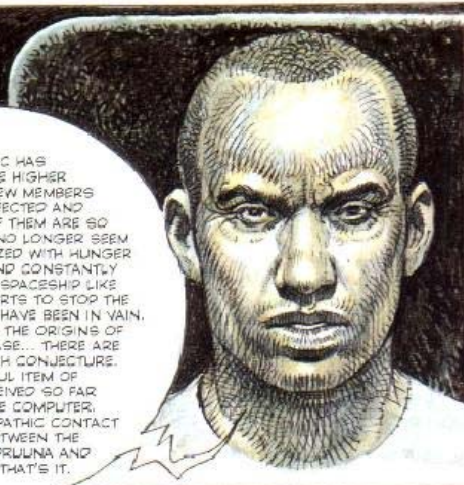
IT'S
COMMANDER
WILL ON
TAPE!

SHIP'S LOG- 8907/10. FINAL
MESSAGE. ACCESS AUTHORIZED.
ABSOLUTE PRIORITY... WE HAVE LITTLE
TIME LEFT. THE FOLLOWING IS A
SUMMARY OF THE EVENTS THAT MADE
US DECIDE TO ABANDON SHIP. THE
SITUATION HAS BEEN
DETERIORATING RAPIDLY. THE
DEVASTATING "EVIL" IS
OUT OF CONTROL...



THE
"EVIL!"

THE EPIDEMIC HAS
SPREAD TO THE HIGHER
LEVELS. MOST CREW MEMBERS
ARE ALREADY INFECTED AND
MUTATING. MANY OF THEM ARE SO
DEFORMED THAT THEY NO LONGER SEEM
HUMAN. THEY ARE CRAZED WITH HUNGER
FOR HUMAN FLESH AND CONSTANTLY
PROWL AROUND THE SPACESHIP LIKE
BEASTS. ALL OUR EFFORTS TO STOP THE
"EVIL" FROM SPREADING HAVE BEEN IN VAIN.
WE ARE IGNORANT OF THE ORIGINS OF
THIS UNKNOWN DISEASE... THERE ARE
FEW FACTS AND MUCH CONJECTURE.
THE MOST USEFUL ITEM OF
INFORMATION RECEIVED SO FAR
WAS THROUGH THE COMPUTER.
THANKS TO THE TELEPATHIC CONTACT
ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE
WOMAN CALLED DRUUNA AND
THE "SPIRIT"... THAT'S IT.



IT CAME IN REPLY TO OUR
REQUEST FOR HELP... WE ASSUME
THAT THE "SPIRIT" WISHED TO LET US
KNOW THAT WE COULD NOT ESCAPE OUR FATE.
WE BELIEVE THAT THESE SYMBOLS ARE A FORM OF
WRITING, DEVELOPED BY A VERY ANCIENT
PRE-HUMAN EXTRATERRESTRIAL CULTURE THAT
ESTABLISHED ITSELF ON EARTH AND HAS
SINCE BECOME EXTINCT... THE WOMAN
TOLD US THAT THE SYMBOLS
MEANT "BORN OF THE
SEA-FOAM..."

YES. ON EARTH,
APHRODITE WAS AN
ANCIENT GREEK GODDESS
WHO SPANG FROM THE
SEA-FOAM... WATER IS THE MOST
BASIC FORM OF MATTER, OF LIFE,
BUT THE "EVIL" IS IN US, OUR
GENETIC CODE, OUR DNA... IT
COMES FROM US, FROM OUR
NATURE...

APHRODISIA!
DRUUNA SAID
THAT THAT'S WHAT
"HE" USED TO
CALL HER!





THESE DREAMS ARE THE FINAL MOMENTS OF OUR EXISTENCE... THEY ARE NOTHING BUT ILLUSIONS INVENTED BY "HIS" MIND.

HEY! WHO'S THERE?

WE HAVE LOST HOPE. WE FAILED IN OUR ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP AN ANTIDOTE BECAUSE WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY EXTRACT OF MANDAGORE. AND SO WE HAVE DECIDED TO ABANDON THE MOTHER SHIP. THIS WAS THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE.



THUS HE WILL DIE, AND EVERYTHING HE HAS CREATED WILL DISAPPEAR WITH HIM... DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? LISTEN TO ME! I KNOW YOU WANTED TO LIVE, BUT YOU AND I ARE PART OF HIS DREAM... AND WE MUST DIE! THIS IS THE END!

SHASTAR! MY GOD! YOU ARE SHASTAR! YOU ARE HERE!

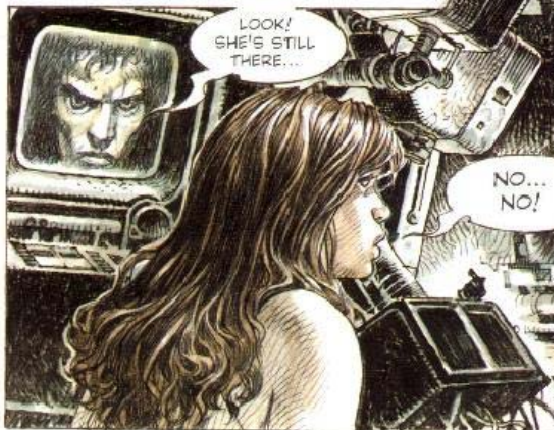
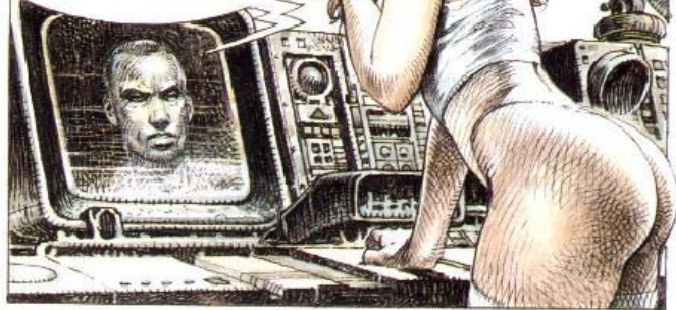


THE 36 HOURS WILL SOON BE UP... A FEW MORE SECONDS AND THEN NOTHING...

WHAT? THEN IT'S TRUE! WHEN THE SPACESHIP EXPLODES, THE COMPUTER WILL BE DESTROYED... AND SO WILL THE "SPIRIT"... AND I'LL CEASE TO EXIST TOO! MY LIFE WILL BE OVER!

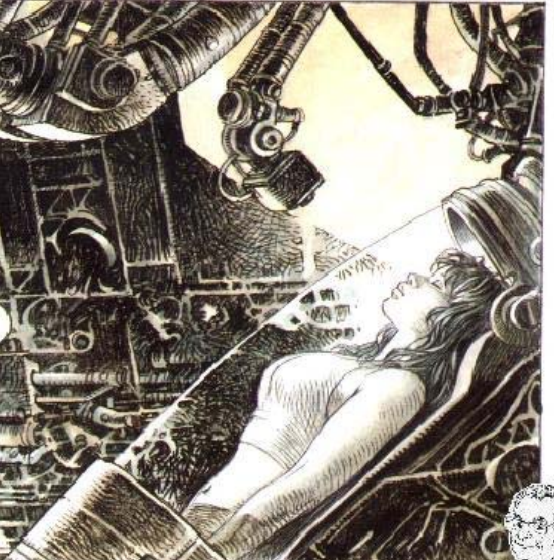
YOU NEVER EXISTED... YOU HAVE NO LIFE, YOU'RE ONLY A VISION.

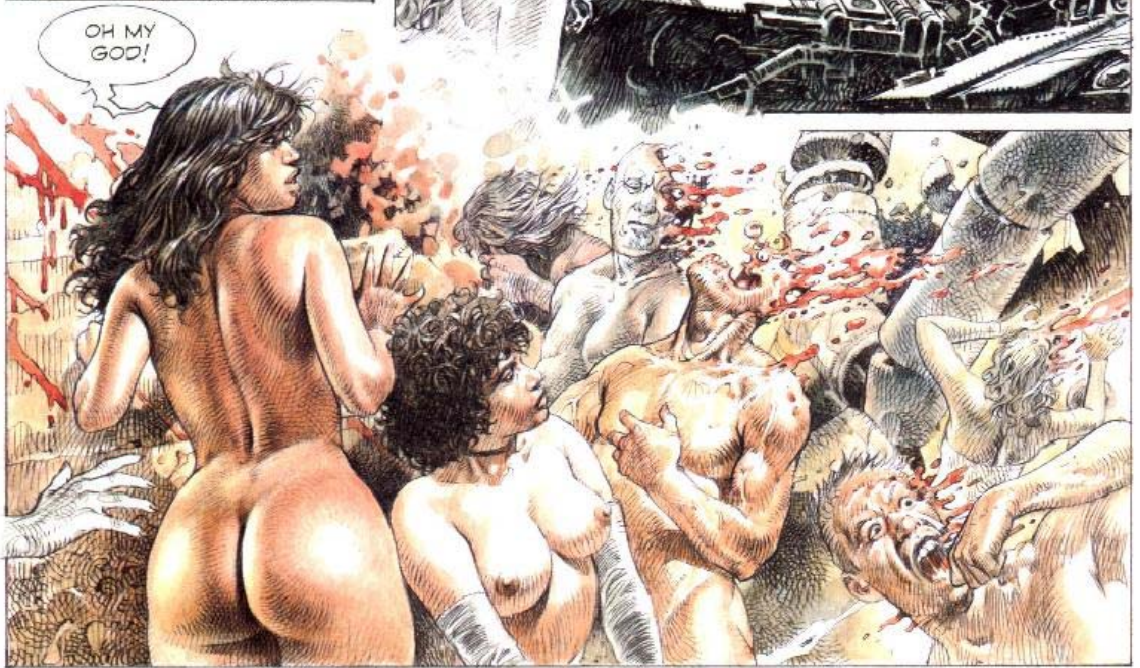
DEVICE H IS SET TO GO OFF IN 36 HOURS. AT THAT PRECISE MOMENT, THE SPACESHIP WILL SELF-DESTRUCT. EVERY FRAGMENT WILL BE ANNIHILATED IN THE NUCLEAR EXPLOSION. THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN. OVER AND OUT!



LOOK! SHE'S STILL THERE...

NO... NO!









MY GOD, I'M ALIVE... I GOT OUT OF THE NIGHTMARE... BUT WHERE AM I NOW?



OH, I KNOW... I WATCHED THE TAPE AND LISTENED TO THE RECORDING AND NOW I REMEMBER EVERYTHING PERFECTLY... BUT HOW CAN I BE SURE THAT I BELONG HERE... THERE MAY BE SOMEONE ELSE... BUT WHO? MY DOUBLE...? SHE... SHE WAS ME, IN EVERY RESPECT. FOR A BRIEF INSTANT, SHE LIVED IN AND THROUGH MY BODY. HERE, IN THIS PLACE I'VE TAKEN MY MEMORY BACK FROM HER... OH, MY GOD, I REMEMBER NOW... THE EXPLOSION, THE BLINDING LIGHT IN THE INFINITE UNIVERSE... THE SPACE-SHIP AND THE "SPIRIT" EXPLODED... LEWIS IS DEAD! OH, SHASTAR, IS THAT YOU?



I'M STILL LINKED TO YOU BY A BOND OF FEEBLE ENERGY... FOR A FEW MOMENTS YET, MY LOVE...



SHASTAR! MY LOVE! YOU ARE HERE, NEXT TO ME!

I STILL EXIST BECAUSE YOU WANT ME TO, DRUUNA, THERE'S SO MUCH LIFE IN YOU...



IN THE WORLD OF DEATH WHERE WE EXISTED, YOU WERE ALWAYS MY JOY, MY HAPPINESS, MY LOVE, MY LIFE... AND THAT'S WHY I LOVE YOU SO MUCH... WHEREVER YOU MAY BE, I'LL ALWAYS BE WITH YOU... BONDED TO YOU, FOREVER MORE!

OH, SHASTAR! WHAT WILL BECOME OF ME WITHOUT YOU...? LET ME FOLLOW YOU...




I'LL NEVER AGAIN BE ALONE A PART OF YOU WILL ALWAYS BE WITH ME... FAREWELL DRUUNA.

SHASTAR... SHASTAR... I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU.





FAREWELL,
SHASTAR!
FAREWELL, MY LOVE!



SHASTAR
AND LEWIS NO LONGER
EXIST... I HAVE TO ACCEPT
THE BITTER REALITY. EVERY-
THING IS OVER... I AM ALONE!
I SHOULD GO TO SLEEP, NOW.
I MUST PLUNGE INTO A
DREAMLESS SLEEP. I'M TIRED
OF DREAMING! AS DOC
USED TO SAY, IT'S A LITTLE
LIKE DYING... I WANT TO
WAKE UP IN ANOTHER
WORLD... BUT WHERE,
I DON'T KNOW...
I'LL THINK ABOUT IT
TOMORROW... YES...
TOMORROW...

